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act. memo

14 June 1963

At the Special Group Meeting of 13 June 1963 it was decided to recommend to higher authority one mission of three aircraft to cover Mayari Arriba, El Horno and Banes, entering from northwest of Holguin covering El Horno and exiting over Banes. Action on Artemisa and Santiago de las Vegas will be withheld pending analysis of the results of this flight and the Cuban reaction. The plan is to execute the flight the week of June 17th subject to approval by higher authority in an effort to complete the mission prior to the President's departure for Europe.

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Following the meeting the DCI requested [] to analyze possibilities of revising the mission to minimize time over Cuba by entering from the southwest and flying a direct northeast course over El Horno, Mayari Arriba and exiting over Banes. This would require aerial refueling south and west of Cuba. It would have the advantage of cutting time over Cuba approximately in half and avoiding proximity of Guantanamo air field. [] was to examine that and report. (Note by [] -- The flight will be made in this manner.)

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ACTION: DD/NRO should discuss with [] and report on decision. This revision of plan seems highly desirable. If by any chance the plane failed to rendezvous with tanker, mission could be aborted and the planes go to Guantanamo.

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DD/R

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